UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/451
21 April 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 9 APRIL 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL*

I have the honour to request that the appended statement on the situation in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which was issued on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on 9 April 1999, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) D. S. KUMALO
Permanent Representative
of South Africa
to the United Nations

* Circulated to the members of the Security Council on 9 April 1999.

99-11393 (E) 210499

/...

Annex

Statement on the situation in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, issued on 9 April 1999 by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

The Non-Aligned Movement, reaffirming the Movement's commitment to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States, and reaffirming the Non-Aligned Movement's principles and the sanctity of the Charter of the United Nations, is deeply alarmed at the worsening crisis in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and the Balkan region.

The Non-Aligned Movement reaffirms that the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the United Nations Security Council.

The Non-Aligned Movement is deeply concerned by the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Kosovo, and other parts of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and the displacement, both internal and to neighbouring countries, of vast numbers of the Kosovo civilian population. In this regard, the Non-Aligned Movement urges the Secretary-General to intensify the role of the United Nations in alleviating the suffering of the displaced persons and refugees who are fleeing Kosovo, and to investigate all abuses of human rights.

The Non-Aligned Movement calls for an immediate cessation of all hostilities, and the swift and safe return of all refugees and displaced persons.

The Non-Aligned Movement firmly believes that the urgent resumption of diplomatic efforts, under the auspices of the United Nations and the relevant Security Council resolutions, 1199 (1998) and 1203 (1998), constitutes the only basis for a peaceful, just and equitable solution to the conflict.